CLAIMS

We claim:

1.   Use of N-benzoyl-staurosporine in the manufacture of a medicament for the
      treatment of diabetic retinopathy with reduced hepatotoxicity in a selected patient
      population, where in the patient population is selected on the basis of the genotype
      of the patients at an *IL1A* genetic locus predictive of hepatotoxicity.

2.   A method for predicting hepatotoxicity in a subject, comprising the steps of:
      (a)   obtaining the genotype of a subject at an *IL1A* genetic locus predictive of
             hepatotoxicity following administration of a staurosporine derivative; and
      (b)   determining whether the subject is at risk for hepatotoxicity following
             administration of the staurosporine derivative.

3.   The method of claim 2, wherein the *IL1A* genetic locus is PG locus ID 279.

4.   The method of claim 3, wherein a CC genotype at the PG locus ID 279 is predictive
      of a high risk of hepatotoxicity.

5.   The method of claim 3, wherein a CT or TT genotype at the PG locus ID 279 is
      predictive of a low or average risk of hepatotoxicity.

6.   The method of claim 2, wherein the *IL1A* genetic locus is PG locus ID 302.

7.   The method of claim 6, wherein a GG genotype at the PG locus ID 302 is predictive
      of a high risk of hepatotoxicity.

8.   The method of claim 6, wherein a GT or TT genotype at the PG locus ID 302 is
      predictive of a low or average risk of hepatotoxicity.

9. An improved method for treating a diabetic condition with at staurosporine derivative, comprising the steps of:

   (a) obtaining the genotype of a subject to be treated at an *IL1A* genetic locus predictive of hepatotoxicity following administration of the staurosporine derivative;

   (b) administering the staurosporine derivative to the subject.

10. A method for choosing a subject for inclusion in a clinical trial for determining the efficacy of treatment with a staurosporine derivative, comprising the steps of:

    (a) obtaining the genotype of a subject at an *IL1A* genetic locus predictive of hepatotoxicity following administration of a staurosporine derivative; and

    (b) then:

        (i) including the subject in the trial if the genotype indicates a low or average risk of hepatotoxicity; or

        (ii) excluding the subject from the trial if the genotype indicates a high risk of hepatotoxicity.

11. A kit for use in predicting hepatotoxicity, comprising:

    (a) a reagent for detecting a genetic polymorphism in the *IL1A* gene that is biomarker of staurosporine derivative-mediated hepatotoxicity;

    (b) a container for the reagent; and

    (c) a written product on or in the container describing the use of the biomarker in predicting staurosporine derivative-mediated hepatotoxicity in subjects.

12. The kit of claim 11, wherein the *IL1A* genetic locus is PG locus ID 279.

13. The kit of claim 11, wherein the *IL1A* genetic locus is PG locus ID 302.

14. The kit of claim 11, wherein the reagent is a set of primer pairs that hybridize to a polynucleotide on either the side of the genetic polymorphism and which define a nucleotide region that spans the genetic polymorphism.